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(54) Abstract Title
Bird table

(57) The bird table comprises a ground engaging member and a generally vertically extending support 10. The support carries a platform 30 above which there is positioned a foodstuff dispensing means 50 for birds. The support may be telescopic and the table may have a top cover 70. A diffuser cone 21 may urge the foodstuff 51 against a mesh tube.

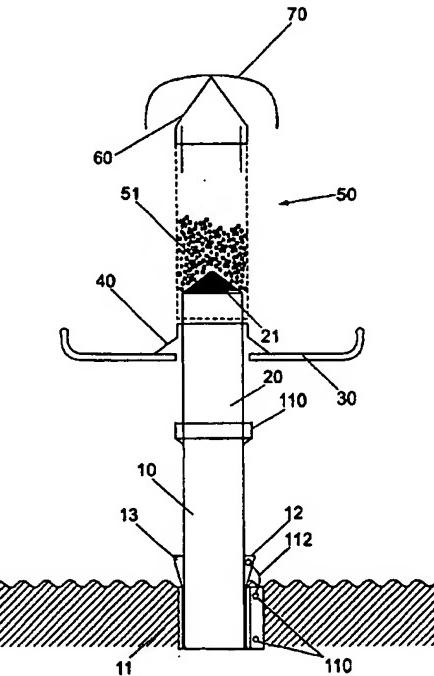


Fig. 1

At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

This print takes account of replacement documents submitted after the date of filing to enable the application to comply with the formal requirements of the Patents Rules 1995

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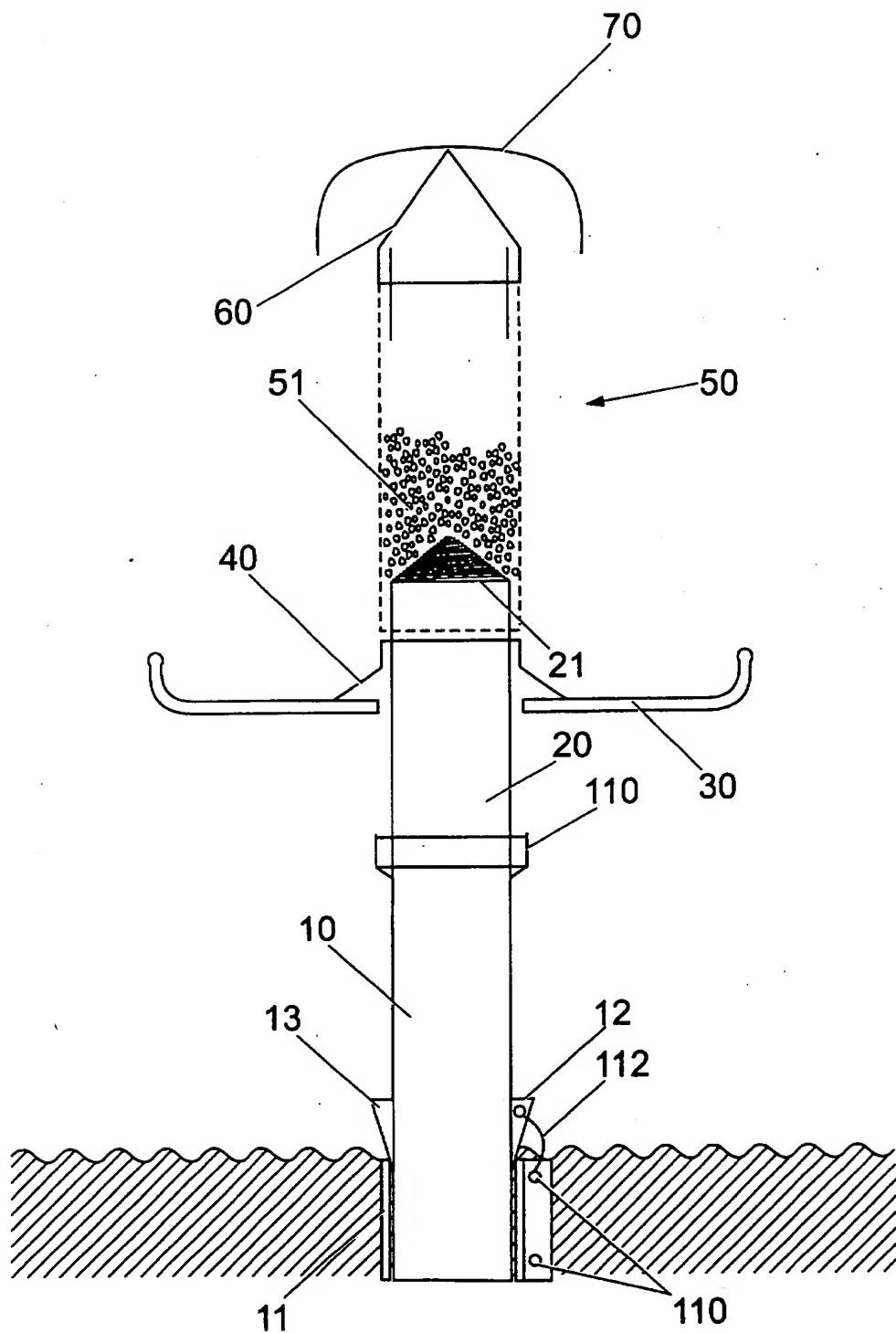


Fig. 1

1 "Bird Table"

2

3 This invention relates to a bird table, and more
4 particularly, to a bird table of novel construction
5 which facilitates manufacture, storage and assembly
6 of the bird table.

7

8 Hitherto, bird tables were formed of wood requiring
9 carpentry skills in the manufacture and assembly.
10 Alternatively, bird tables were formed as assembled
11 units making storage and transport difficult.

12

13 It is an object of the present invention to provide
14 a bird table in component form which can be easily
15 manufactured, stored, transported and assembled.

16

17 According to the present invention there is provided
18 a bird table comprising a ground engaging member, a
19 generally vertically extending support, platform
20 means carried by the support, and foodstuff
21 dispensing means located above the platform.

22

1 Embodiments of the present invention will now be
2 described, with reference to the accompany drawings,
3 in which:-

4

5 Fig. 1 is an elevational view of one embodiment
6 of a bird table made in accordance with the
7 present invention.

8

9 Referring to the drawings, a bird table made in
10 accordance with the present invention comprises a
11 generally tubular lower support 10, formed of a
12 plastics cylindrical member and adapted to fit
13 within a ground socket 11 permanently fixed in the
14 ground by means of fixing elements 110.

15

16 In use, the support 10 is held in the ground socket
17 11 by means of a fixing wedge 12 fixed to the socket
18 11 by a wire 112. If necessary, a further wedge 13
19 may be provided.

20

21 The lower support 10 carries an upper support 20,
22 the upper support 20 being an interference fit
23 within a widened portion 110 of the lower support
24 10.

25

26 At the uppermost end of the upper support 20 there
27 is mounted a tray 30 which acts as a platform for
28 birds.

29

30 The tray 30 is affixed to the upper support 20
31 through a generally frusto-conical fixing unit 40,

1 which is positioned at the upper end of the upper
2 support 20.

3

4 The tray 30 is weld-glued to the fixing unit 40
5 which is thus held in the position illustrated.

6

7 A food distribution unit 50 is mounted on the top of
8 the upper support 20. The food distribution unit 50
9 comprises a tubular stainless steel mesh tube and
10 serves to retain foodstuffs 51, such as nuts or the
11 like.

12

13 The nuts 51 are urged outwards against the inner
14 surface of the mesh by a diffuser cone 21 fitted to
15 the top of the upper support 20.

16

17 In use, birds can access the foodstuffs through the
18 apertures in the mesh. The mesh, being formed of
19 stainless steel is resistant to corrosive attack or
20 attack by other animals, such as squirrels.

21

22 On top of the food distribution unit 50 there is
23 provided a top cover 60 which carries a general
24 hemispherical cowl 70. The cowl 70 serves to
25 prevent the ingress of rainwater into the food
26 distribution unit 50, diverting any rainwater onto
27 the tray 30.

28

29 Thus, there has been provided a novel construction
30 of bird table which is efficient in its use, easily
31 manufactured, stored, transported and assembled.

1 The design also permits dis-assembly of the unit for
2 periods of non-use.

3

4 Modifications and improvements may be incorporated
5 without departing from the scope of the invention.

1 CLAIMS

2

3 1 A bird table comprising a ground engaging
4 member, a generally vertically extending support,
5 platform means carried by the support, and foodstuff
6 dispensing means located above the platform.

7

8 2 A bird table as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the
9 ground engaging member is retained in a ground
10 socket by means of fixing wedges.

11

12 3 A bird table as claimed in either preceding
13 claim wherein the vertically extending support is
14 tubular and is formed of two portions which
15 telescopically fit one within the other.

16

17 4 A bird table as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the
18 telescopic fit is an interference fit.

19

20 5 A bird table as claimed in any preceding claim
21 wherein the platform is in the form of a circular
22 table having a central aperture through which the
23 support can pass, the tray being fixed to the
24 support by a fixing unit.

25

26 6 A bird table as claimed in Claim 5 wherein the
27 fixing unit is frusto-conical.

28

29 7 A bird table as claimed in any preceding claim
30 wherein the foodstuff dispensing means is in the
31 form of a food distribution unit comprising a mesh
32 tube through which foodstuffs may be accessed.

1

2 8 A bird table as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the
3 foodstuff is urged against the mesh tube by means of
4 a diffuser cone.

5

6 9 A bird table as claimed in any preceding claim,
7 and including a top cover arrangement to prevent
8 ingress of rainwater into the foodstuff dispensing
9 means.

10

11 10 A bird table as hereinbefore described with
12 reference to the accompanying drawings.



Application No: GB 0112081.5
Claims searched: 1-10

Examiner: Paul Jenkins
Date of search: 21 September 2001

Patents Act 1977
Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.S): A1M (MEA)

Int Cl (Ed.7): A01K 39/00, 39/01, 39/012

Other: Online: WPI, EPODOC, JAPIO

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage		Relevant to claims
X	GB 2290213 A	(ALLEN) Whole document relevant	1-2 & 7
A,P	US 6073582	(LUSH) See fig 5 and column 3 lines 24-27	-----
Y	US 6047661	(LUSH) See base plate 7 in figures 3 & 4	8
X,Y	US 5829383	(BLANDING) Whole document relevant see especially figure 1 and column 4 lines 58-61	X: 1-2, 5-6 & 9 Y: 8
X,Y	US 5826539	(BLOEDORN) Whole document relevant see especially figures 5, 9 & 10 and column 3 lines 17-18	X: 1-2, 5, 7 & 9 Y: 8
A	US 5803426	(HART) Figs 7 & 8	2
X	US 5291855	(LAVERTY) Whole document relevant especially figure 2 and column 2 lines 3-6	1-6 & 9
X	US 4829934	(BLASBALG) Whole document relevant see especially the figures	1-2 & 5
X	US 4765277	(BAILEY) Whole document relevant see especially figure 1	1-4

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.



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Y Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
& Member of the same patent family	E Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.